

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7281

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GATT ETRD

SUBJECT: GATT ADMINISTRATION

REFERENCE: GENEVA 9302

1. GATT DG LONG INFORMED US TODAY THAT NOW THAT GATT COUNCIL HAS AUTHORIZED GATT HAVING TWO DEPUTY DIRECTOR POSITIONS UNTIL JUNE 1978, THAT HE INTENDED TO OFFER DDG PATTERSON, WHO IS IN SECOND DDG SLOT, AN EXTENSION TO JUNE 30, 1978. THIS SHOULD CARRY PATTERSON THROUGH END OF MTN. HE INDICATED PATTERSON HAD OFFERED TO REMAIN FOR DURATION OF MTN, BUT WOULD WISH TO LEAVE THEREAFTER. LONG STATED THAT OTHER DDG, MATHUR, HAS BEEN ON SECONDMENT FROM INDIAN GOVERNMENT FOR MUCH LONGER THAN PERIOD INDIAN CIVIL SERVICE NORMALLY PERMITS, AND THERE IS POSSIBILITY GOI MAY NOT AGREE TO FURTHER EXTENSION. ACCORDINGLY, LONG INTENDS OFFER MATHUR FIVE-YEAR DIRECT-HIRE APPOINTMENT. HE SAID THAT THIS WOULD CARRY MATHUR BEYOND PERIOD HE AND PATTERSON WOULD BE AROUND, THUS PROVIDING CONTINUITY AT TOP LEVEL OF GATT SECRETARIAT. HE CONTRASTED THIS TO UNFORTUNATE SITUATION EXISTING IN GATT WHEN WYNDHAM-WHITE RESIGNED SHORTLY AFTER HIS DEPUTY HAD LEFT.

2. MATHUR HAS BEEN VERY LOW-KEY DDG AND IN OUR VIEW HAS NOT MADE MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO GATT OPERATION.

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ON OTHER HAND, HE HAS BEEN ADVOCATE OF GATT INTEGRITY

IN LDC CIRCLES. LDCS WILL CERTAINLY INSIST IN HAVING
AT LEAST ONE OF TOP GATT JOBS AND WE FEEL GATT MAY
BE BETTER OFF WITH MATHUR THAN WITH MORE ACTIVIST LDC.
WE DO, HOWEVER, SEE DISADVANTAGES IN GIVING
MATHUR SUCH LONG CONTRACT, SINCE IT PROBABLY WILL BE
DESIRABLE TO RE-EXAMINE ENTIRE GATT TOP LEADERSHIP
STRUCTURE AFTER CONSLUSION MTN. EC (LUYTEN) TO WHOM
WE MENTIONED MATTER IN PASSING, SAID HE DID NOT THINK
EC WOULD HAVE PROBLEMS WITH NEW FIVE-YEAR CONTRACT FOR MATHUR.
IF WASHINGTON WISHES US TAKE ANY ACTION ON SUBJECT, WE SHOULD
BE INFORMED IMMEDIATELY.DALE

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